IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

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TITLE

FILED:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE

SURGICAL TREATMENT OF

CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450-

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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Applicant respectfully requests that the above-referenced application be amended as indicated below before consideration of patentability on the ments.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 9.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/4/06

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